

From: AANDJMARVAN
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/5/02 1:25pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

As a consumer, I have always felt that I had the freedom to choose whatever I wanted, whenever I wanted it, and, to a certain extent, however I wanted it. I strongly believe that Microsoft is a victim of it's own success. Some people, the majority of them being Microsoft's competitor's, complain that Microsoft's success was a result of foul play. That is totally untrue. Microsoft is a leader in it's field because of a vision, hard work to implement the vision, and innovation to remain a competitive force. These are not acts of crime or foul play, these are acts of the American dream. Let's not penalize successful, hard working people, let us simply allow them to thrive. Government intervention, in order to level the playing field, has almost always historically resulted in hurting the people the government was trying to protect, the consumer. Do we so quickly forget how Microsoft has contributed to the explosion of the computer industry, and do we also forget how many jobs they have created not only at Microsoft but also at a plethora of other companies that started up as a result of their success? This whole case is a big let down and a real slap in the face to Microsoft and aspiring Americans who want to live out the American dream to it's full potential. Don't forget, Microsoft isn't just Bill Gates, it's a corporation with many employees and many business owners in the form of shareholders. Please be very careful and very wise in considering this settlement. People are being hurt because this case is costing a great deal of money in tax revenue and in company revenue. Who is really winning here if tax paying consumers are dumping money into this case over many years? The obvious answer is that no one is. All of us are losing money in one form or another. Please resolve this matter as soon as possible so everyone can get on with business and put this senseless debate behind us. I appreciate your attention to my concerns. Have a great new year.

Anthony F. Marvan